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THOMSEN'S

# Garden Hints

THOMSEN'S NURSERY & SEED STORE

4720 Hiawatha Avenue, Minneapolis, Minn.

WHEN YOU BUY THOMSEN'S

HIAWATHA BRAND LAWN SEED

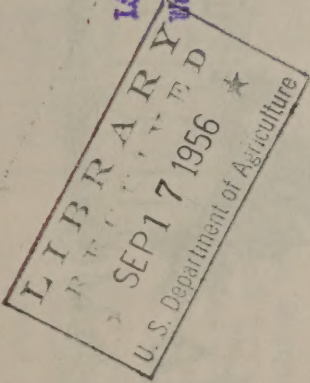
YOU BUY THE BEST

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IF YOU HAVE ANY GARDENING  
PROBLEMS, BE SURE TO BRING  
THEM TO THE BIGGEST LITTLE  
NURSERY AND SEED STORE IN

THE TWIN CITIES

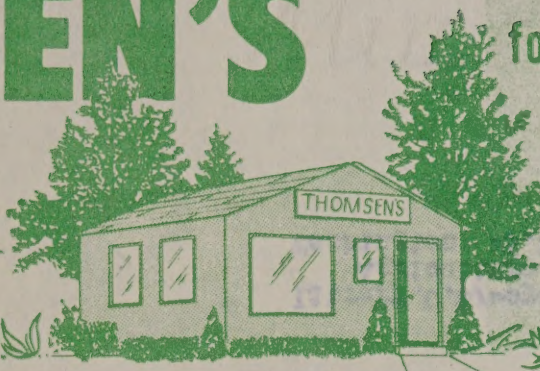
and take care of yourselves, for  
YOU ARE IMPORTANT





# THOMSEN'S

## Garden Hints



A Monthly Guide  
for the Home Gardener

4720 HIAWATHA  
MINNEAPOLIS

FOR EXPERT ADVICE  
PHONE: PA4-9200

### THE CRAB GRASS MENACE AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT THIS FALL

**CRAB GRASS** - What a stinker that turned out to be. It is worse this year than we have ever experienced it any year before. Many people are desperate when it comes to effective means of getting rid of it, and a great many people lack the fundamental understanding of the Weed itself. This information is short and to the point from our many years of turf experience. It's an **ANNUAL**. It propagates from seed only. Germinating in the latter part of May, or the first of June, it delights in **HOT WEATHER**. In most cases it requires full sun, seldom grows in shade or even semi-shade. It has a most marvelous ability to reproduce itself from its prolific seed production. One single plant may easily bear 200,000 seeds, and a few plants can infest a good-sized lawn in a hurry. The seedling plants are generally very inconspicuous and most often overlooked by the casual observer. However, few gardeners fail to recognize it even in September, when the purple color appears all over the turf and the runners take over completely. It is worse in the southern part of the United States and originally came from the tropical climates. But Minnesota gets its share of it, and this summer with its extreme heat and abundant moisture has been a tremendous help in promoting the growth of this lawn pest. Now, what is the main source of Crab Grass infestation? Contrary to common belief, lawn seed never contains crab grass seed. Few products on the market today have reached the state of perfection that lawn seed has. Now we are talking about high quality seed like our **MINNEHAHA BRAND LAWN SEED**. Cheap seed is a poor investment and an expensive undertaking. A common cause of distribution of crab grass seed is topdressing soil, and we believe that the 3000 subscribers to this bulletin will bear us out on this contention. We hardly ever use topdressing soil unless the lawn is uneven and it has to be used. If topdressing is used, we highly recommend **HORTICULTURAL PEAT MOSS**. That is weedfree, completely neutral, mostly testing 7 to 7.50 p.h. The lawn seed germinates perfectly in it. Crab grass seed may also be

distributed from bird droppings, scattered with lawn mowers and by wind. However, many of our customers and correspondents take the pessimistic view that as long as the neighbors have crab grass, what is the use to do anything about it. That is not realistically true. The reason the majority of gardeners have crab grass is because they haven't grass thick enough to compete it out, and don't have the right kind of grass in the lawn to do that very job. Often seeds are purchased which are not for this climate, and even if it might do well for that summer, how about next winter and the following spring and summer. It must be acclimated for that particular region in which it will be grown. Our **MINNEHAHA BRAND LAWN SEED** is blended and grown for that particular job and you are invited to try this out this fall and next spring.

What else can be done in a radical way to really dig into this lawn pest?

After many years of experimenting and reexperimenting we have arrived at a method, now being used by hundreds of lawn enthusiasts in the Twin City Area. It is a radical treatment, but we have a radical individual to deal with. And this is it. When the crab grass gets to the stage it is in by September 1, it is quite useless to **SPRAY** with any of the "miracle" crab grass killers on the market. If you readers like to use any of them use **DOUBLE STRENGTH** and the best is **SODIUM ARSONATE**, **PHENEL MERCURY ACETATE** or **POTASSIUM CYANATE**. We have them all in the store. However, our **HEAT TREATMENT** really does the trick. No crab grass seed or any other weed seeds will stand a 2,000 degree condition and that is what we do. Will it kill or injure the desirable lawn grass? Not at all. It is possible to completely ruin a turf if not applied with the know-how, and it is tricky, but when done correctly it is the most effective and **SURE** way to do away with all crab grass seed growing that season **ABOVE GROUND**. The seed dropped in former years and buried underneath we cannot get before the following year when it appears, if it appears. Our modern machinery completely churns the remains of the plant to shreds, and then retreated to be sure. After that the lawn should be heavily fertilized



with our special GRASS GROWER 8-8-6 FERTILIZER, using 100 Lbs. per 1,000 Sq. Ft., and seeded in with MINNEHAHA BRAND SEED at the rate of 4-5 Lbs. of Seed per 1,000 Sq. Ft. That is re-churned into the ground, mind you, with our Verticut Machine, without the use of Black Soil. If peat moss IS used, it is churned in with these ingredients. If black soil has to be used, we can also treat this topdressing on the spot for weed seeds in the same way as outlined above. -- When can that be done? -- Any time before the snow flies, but preferably during September and October. That will give the grass a chance to grow into something before winter sets in.

Costs of above treatments in next column.

A customer, watching us treat her lawn recently, muttered to herself, "The best since Columbus". Thank you, lady.

Some folks are being pestered with SNOWMOLD in the spring. You can usually prevent that fungus by spraying the lawn in the fall, before snow falls, with TERZAN or 50% Captain Fungicide. Remember that !

BROWN PATCH or DOLLARS SPOTS, sometime attack turf during hot, muggy weather in the summer. The same ingredients can be used with great success.

It is TULIP TIME at THOMSEN's. Be sure to pick your spring-flowering bulbs from our great selection of Holland and Japanese bulbs.

#### COST OF CRAB GRASS ERADICATION

Our Special Method, per 1,000 Sq. Ft.....\$10.00  
Verticutting in Seed and Fertilizer,  
per 1,000 Sq. Ft..... \$5.00

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Minnehaha Brand Lawn Seed, per 1 lb.....	\$1.65
Minnehaha Brand Lawn Seed, per 5 lbs.....	\$7.95
Minnehaha Brand Lawn Seed, per 10 lbs....	\$15.95

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Minnehaha Brand Astoria Grass Seed, 1b....	\$1.85
Minnehaha Brand Astoria Grass Seed, 5 lb..	\$9.00
Minnehaha Brand Astoria Grass Seed, 10 lb.	\$15.95

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This variety is outstanding in competing crab grass and weeds out of existence. It should be in every seed mixture.

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White Clover, Minnehaha Brand, 1b.....	\$1.35
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Creeping Red Fescue Grass Seed,	
Minnehaha Brand...1 lb.....	\$1.45
5 lbs.....	6.65
10 lbs.....	12.95

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Blue Grass, Minnehaha Brand...1 lb.....	\$1.75
5 lbs.....	7.95
10 lbs.....	15.50

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We have all individual seed in whatever blend you desire for your particular need. We will blend it to order from our bulk stock.

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LANDSCAPING with Evergreens and Flowering Shrubs is easy at THOMSEN's. All are potted for safe transplanting by the gardeners themselves of our experienced crew.

Thank you,  
O. Thomsen

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